

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A resorbable extracellular matrix for reconstruction of cartilage tissue, said matrix ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a purified collagen II derived from natural cartilage tissue from which non-collagen proteins have been removed, wherein said natural cartilage tissue is subjected to defatting, wherein said matrix ~~comprises~~ consists essentially of fibres of native collagen II which are physiologically acceptable for implant into a mammalian body, said matrix having a pore size within a range of about 50 - 400 μm .
2. (Original) A matrix as claimed in claim 1 having a pore size within a range of about 70 - 120 μm .
3. (Original) A matrix as claimed in claim 1 containing at least one glycosaminoglycan (GAG) comprising about 1 - 15% by weight of said matrix.
4. (Original) A matrix as claimed in claim 3 wherein said at least GAG comprises about 2 - 3% by weight of said matrix.
5. (Original) A matrix as claimed in claim 1 having a density of about 0.18 - 0.22 g/m^3 .
6. (Original) A matrix as claimed in claim 1 wherein said matrix includes a material selected from the group consisting of at least one glycosaminoglycan (GAG), chondronectin, anchorin II, cartilage inducing factor (CIF), insulin-like growth factor (IGF), transforming growth factor β (TGF β) and a mixture thereof.

7. (Original) The matrix of claim 1 wherein said GAG is selected from the group consisting of chondroitin sulphate, keratan sulphate, dermatan sulphate, hyaluronic acid, and a mixture thereof.

8. Canceled.

9. (Original) A matrix as claimed in claim 1 which is derived from hyaline cartilage from pig.

10. (Original) A scaffold implant for promoting cartilage regeneration comprising the matrix of claim 1, said implant having a thickness of about 0.2 - 2 cm.

11. (Original) The implant of claim 10 having a thickness of about 0.4 - 1 cm.

12. (Original) The implant of claim 10, wherein said matrix is a carrier of a material selected from the group consisting of mesenchymal stem cells and a cartilage cell growth-promoting nucleic acid sequence.